

- 1 -

## OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL

Date of transcription 2/1/98

Clifford Howard Bernath, [REDACTED], was advised of the identity of the interviewers and the nature of the interview. Mr. Bernath was interviewed at the Pentagon in the presence of Department of Defense (DOD) Attorney Brad Wiegman. He provided the following information.

Mr. Bernath is the Primary Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, United States Department of Defense. He is the second in command in the DOD Public Affairs office underneath Ken Bacon, who is the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. Mr. Bernath's duties entail the day to day operations of the Public Affairs office. In this capacity, Mr. Bernath would have oversight over the employees in the Public Affairs office.

There are two other Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense for Public Affairs in addition to Mr. Bernath. They are Doug Wilson, who is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (Communication) and Captain Michael Doubleday, U.S. Navy, who is Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (Information).

Monica Lewinsky was the Confidential Assistant to Ken Bacon. Confidential Assistant is more or less a secretarial position. Although Ken Bacon was Monica Lewinsky's direct supervisor, Mr. Bernath wrote Ms. Lewinsky's performance appraisals. After he wrote the performance appraisal, he would give it to Mr. Bacon for review and signature.

The performance appraisals at DOD have five possible ratings. They are Outstanding, Exceeds Fully Successful, Fully Successful, Satisfactory, and Unsatisfactory. Monica Lewinsky received a performance rating of Exceeds Fully Successful on her one performance appraisal during her eighteen month stint at DOD.

Although Exceeds/Fully Successful is the second highest rating on DOD performance appraisals, it has become more of an average or middle of the road rating.

Her main job was supporting Mr. Bacon, and Mr. Bacon

---

Investigation on 1/28/98 at Arlington, VA File # 29D-OIC-LR-35063, Sub46  
by [REDACTED] Date dictated 2/1/98